

Iron County Register

BY ELI D. AKE.
IRONTON, MISSOURI.

The will of the tenor, Gayarre, disposed of an estate in Madrid worth \$800,000.

While hunting on the 3d, King Humbert of Italy was thrown from his horse and somewhat bruised, but not seriously injured.

The strike of the coal miners in the Seargent district of Belgium is lessening. At many of the pits work has been resumed.

The German War Department has ordered that on April 1 the garrisons on the French frontier shall advance and take position nearer the border.

The draw-bridge built by the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Company over the Arthur Kill from Bridgeport, N. J., to Arlington, Staten Island, was opened on the 1st.

The International Marine Exhibition at Boston closed on the 3d. During the two months that it was open there were over 200,000 visitors. It was not a financial success.

Mrs. POLLY FRENCH, of East Templeton, Mass., celebrated her one hundred birthday, on the 1st, by receiving numerous friends and relatives. She is quite bright and active.

The strikes in Belgium are assuming a most serious phase. There are now involved upward of seventeen thousand men, and in addition to the probability of riots a coal famine is imminent.

The report that the Sultan had requested Lord Salisbury to suppress the London Daily News on account of its publication of articles hostile to the Porte is denied by the Turkish Ambassador to England.

What amounts to a panic exists among the farmers of some of the counties of Middle Tennessee, the cause being the daring operations of a gang of horse-thieves that has been operating there for several months.

There was great alarm in St. Petersburg, on the night of the 2d, caused by a report of the Czar's death. It is impossible to learn whether the Czar's illness is from influenza, or whether he has been poisoned.

The American squadron of evolution arrived at Tangier, Morocco, on the 2d. Owing to the prevalence of influenza on ship-board they did not land any of their officers or crew. The disease was about evenly divided between the ships.

JOHN HILTON, of Mansfield, Mass., a brakeman, was crushed to death in the Old Colony railroad yard at South Framingham, on the 2d, while making up a train. His injuries were wholly internal, there not being a mark on his body.

Governor RICHARDSON of South Carolina has issued a proclamation offering a reward of \$200 for the apprehension and conviction of each and every one of the parties concerned in the killing of negroes at Barnwell on the 25th.

ROSA STAKE, the little daughter of an Ohio farmer, living near Akron, fell on the points of a pair of shears, on the 31st, the blade piercing her heart. She pulled it out, and the blood gushed out in a stream, and in an instant the little one was dead.

The steamer Faraday has succeeded in repairing, in mid-ocean, one of the Western Union Atlantic cables which had been broken for some time. This now gives the cable companies all of their seven cables except one for Atlantic traffic.

A PANIC occurred at the American Varieties Theater in Berlin on the night of the 2d. A lady in the audience fainting, the cry of fire was raised and a terrific rush was made for the doors. Many serious accidents occurred, but no one was killed.

MR. GLADSTONE wrote a general reply, on the 30th, to the birthday greetings which were showered upon him, expressing the hope that the indulgence shown in estimating the value of his labors would help to make him watchful to avoid errors.

Mrs. MAYBRICK's friends have of late redoubled their efforts to secure the prisoner's release. They claim to have gathered from America and other sources such a mass of evidence in favor of Mrs. Maybrick that the Queen will be unable to refuse a pardon.

DR. CYRUS EDSON, of the New York Board of Health, said, on the 2d, that there were fully 100,000 cases of "la grippe" in that city. He thinks that it is contagious, and that before it has spent its force every adult will come in for a share of the sneezing.

A SANGUINARY battle was recently fought near Tacow, Formosa, between the Chinese and the natives of Formosa. The Chinese were ordered to show mercy in the punishment they were sent to inflict, and the fight resulted in the slaughter of 400 of the natives.

PROF. MELVILLE G. BLAINE, principal teacher at Chemawa Indian Training School, near Salem, Ore., and brother of Secretary of State James G. Blaine, died, on the 31st, after a brief illness, aged sixty-three. He was a man of rare ability, a fine speaker and an able educator.

A CROWDED meeting of the Labor League of London was held, on the 30th, at which resolutions were passed protesting against the importation of foreign pauper-labor and urging the government to emulate the action of the United States with regard to this growing evil.

HON. GEORGE H. BOWKER, formerly Minister to Russia and Turkey, died at his home in Philadelphia on the 2d. Mr. Bowker was known as one of the most successful poetic playwrights of the century. He wrote "Francesca de Rimini," which was played with great success by Lawrence Barrett, and several other strong plays.

The lunatic who threw a box of gunpowder and fuse at the King of Italy on the 1st, claims to be the author of a philosophical system of great value to mankind. The Minister of Instruction had refused to listen to his exposition of the system, hence his irritation against the government. He asserts that he threw the missile at the Minister and not at the King.

NEWS AND NOTES.

A Summary of Important Events.

PERSONAL AND GENERAL.

Mrs. ROBERT TYLER died in Montgomery, Ala., on the 29th, in the seventy-fourth year of her age. Mrs. Tyler was a daughter of the tragedian Thomas Cooper, and Mary Fairlee, a celebrated actress of New York. Her husband, Robert Tyler, a son of President Tyler, and upon the special request of the President and of his wife, who was an invalid, she presided as "Lady of the White House" during the first three years of President Tyler's administration.

An Oakland (Cal.) boarding-house, on the 29th, Mrs. Jane Erwin and her two daughters, Mary and Bessie, aged sixteen and twelve respectively, were found dead in bed, having been asphyxiated by gas. They had just arrived from the Col. Camp, Me., en route to Ventura County, Cal. The husband of Mrs. Erwin was a ranchman.

After a thorough investigation of the plans and resources of the Monte Piedad banking scheme concessionaires, in the City of Mexico, it is learned that they can count on sufficient funds to carry out their project. It is stated that the recent rumors that the concessionaires' efforts had ended in a fiasco, were started by enemies of the enterprise.

MANY deaths from pneumonia resulting from influenza are reported from all parts of the country.

The Republic of San Salvador state that the revolutionists of the Department of Cuscatlan are retreating before the government troops sent against them, and that the revolution is of no importance.

Mrs. ROBERT STEWART, the wife of the proprietor of the telegraph of the New Jersey Central Railroad Company, committed suicide by jumping overboard from a ferry-boat between Jersey City and Brooklyn. Her body has not been recovered.

HENRI REINHOLD, who some time ago was forced to flee from Germany owing to his advanced Anarchistic teachings and proclivities, returned to Leipzig from America recently. Though great secrecy was observed with regard to his presence, the authorities became aware of his return and with equal secrecy arrested him.

Mrs. MARIA ROBINSON, of New York, will in the spring erect a library building to cost \$250,000, at Arlington, Mass., which, together with 10,000 volumes, intended as the nucleus of a great library, she will present to the city.

The official silence of Consul Johnson with regard to recent events in Mozambique and the acts of Serpa Pinto encourages the belief that he is organizing a force to drive the Portuguese from the position they have assumed.

The trial of ninety-one Socialists, who had been progressing at Eilenfeld, Germany, for several days, was concluded on the 30th. Deputies Bebel, Gumbelberger and forty-four others were acquitted; Deputy Hamer was sentenced to six months' imprisonment and the other prisoners were imprisoned for terms varying from eighteen months to fourteen days.

It is stated that the illness of the Czar was caused by excitement consequent upon the sudden extinguishing of the electric lights in the Gatchina Palace, which caused an immediate rush of blood to the lungs, with resultant congestion.

HENRY M. STANLEY, accompanied by Evan Smith, British Consul-General at Zanzibar, sailed from Zanzibar for Mombassa on the 30th. The remainder of the Stanley expedition left for Mombassa on the 31st.

LORD SALISBURY was reported seriously ill on the 30th. The Republican members of the Massachusetts State Senate met in caucus, on the 1st, and nominated Henry W. Sprague, of Boston, for president. The much talked of Senate held no caucus. The House Democrats held a caucus, but made no nominations. Both branches of the Legislature met at eleven o'clock for organization.

CHAS. RITTER, a New York City baker, became crazy, on the 1st, as a result of the much talked of Senate held no caucus. The House Democrats held a caucus, but made no nominations. Both branches of the Legislature met at eleven o'clock for organization.

JAMES A. BYRNS, an inveterate cigarette smoker, aged twenty years, committed suicide at Terre Haute, Ind., on the evening of the 29th, by putting a bullet through his head.

The International Marine Conference at Washington adjourned sine die at noon of the 31st.

Among the deaths in New York City, on the 1st, were: From pneumonia, 56; phthisis, 24, and bronchitis, 20.

The negro citizens of Atlanta, Ga., celebrated Emancipation Day, on the 1st, with a military parade and exercises at the Lloyd Street Church.

The Berlin Tagblatt claims to have information from an undeniable source that Dr. Peters and party are certainly alive.

The funeral services over the remains of Robert Browning, the poet, were held in Westminster Abbey on the 31st. Is an altercation, on the 31st, between the Republican incumbent and the Democratic sheriff-elect of Silver Bow County, Mont., both drew pistols but were prevented by bystanders from using them.

The paupers' school at Forest Gate, London, a connection of the White-chapel Unions, was burned, on the morning of the 1st, and twenty-six boys who were asleep in the upper stories were rescued before they could be rescued.

Fifty-eight others were rescued by the attaches of the institution and members of the fire brigade amidst the most intense excitement and at great risk.

CHARLES KING, of Middleboro, Mass., probably the oldest man in New England, who will be one hundred and eight years of age on January 15, celebrated the New Year by a family gathering, forty of his descendants being present. Mr. King was born in Middleboro and is the last of a family of ten sons, one of whom reached the age of one hundred.

An international miners congress has been arranged by the British Miners' Union and the German miners' organizations and will be held at Berlin during the present year.

The increase in Germany's armament continues to excite comment. The gun factories at Spandau are still running night and day.

The Queen of Saxony, the Queen of Rumania, Baron Mohrenheim and Dr. Dollinger are among the latest victims of the influenza.

The United States ship Richmond, flagship of the South Atlantic squadron, sailed, on the 2d, from Bahia, Brazil, for Montevideo. All were well.

HENRY M. STANLEY departed from Zanzibar for Cairo, on the 2d, on the steamer Mansourah. The Sultan of Zanzibar has decorated Stanley with the order of the Blazing Star.

ONLY one vote was cast in the Limerick (Ireland) corporation, on the 2d, against the restoration of continued confinement in Mr. Parnell.

The vessel with which the City of Paris collided in the Marée, on the 1st, was the British steamer Birchfield, bound from Liverpool to Cardiff.

The bawls of the City of Paris were not carried away, as at first reported, but only slightly damaged. The Birchfield lost her starboard foremast and sprung her foremast.

HON. T. C. POWER was chosen as the second Senator from Montana by the Republican members of the Legislature in joint session on the 2d.

HURAN HOWE, the famous horseman, died at New York, N. Y., on the 2d. During his life he brought out many of the most famous trotters.

THERE are 400 cases of "la grippe" among the prisoners in Clinton (N. Y.) prison. The warden, clerk and assistant clerk are confined to their beds.

The first case of typhoid fever in the United States had a majority in the Drogheda (Ireland) corporation the Queen's health was drunk at the majority New Year's banquet on the 1st.

THREE prisoners escaped from the Ohio penitentiary on the night of the 2d. They concealed themselves in the kitchen at locking-up time, and then crawled through a ventilator, thus gaining the open court-yard inside the walls, whence they escaped by means of a rope.

It is said that the President has finally decided to adopt Secretary Windom's recommendation that the Government shall accept silver bullion and issue certificates therefor at the market rate, the certificates to serve as currency; and that the President will soon send a message to Congress on the subject.

HENRI BAUMANN, the explorer, who shortly preceded to Zanzibar and other parts of Southeast Africa in the interest of a German company.

The postal authorities of Austria are violently agitated over the theft of a letter containing \$90,000 in transit between Pesth and Vienna.

An eminent Paris physician concurs in the belief expressed by Lord Salisbury that the latter's influenza was transmitted from Russia in dispatches which came to the London Foreign Office from St. Petersburg.

JOHN LILLIE, at present registering the land claims of Indians, has been pushed by Indiana friends for the position of Governor of Oklahoma.

THERE is a movement on foot to organize a National loan and savings association with headquarters at Buffalo, N. Y., and branch offices in several States and Eastern cities, with a capital of \$500,000.

CHOLERA is raging frightfully at Hamadan, Persia. Many deaths have occurred and it is feared that the disease will spread to Teheran in the spring.

JOHN RUSKIN is again ill.

The Russian Government has ordered the manufacture of 1,500,000 magazine rifles in France, the delivery of the weapons to be made as speedily as possible.

The steamship Britannic, New York for Liverpool, ran down and sunk the brigantine (Zarowitz, on the night of the 2d, in the Irish sea, near the Mersey. The Captain of the Zarowitz was drowned. All the others on board were saved by the crew of the Britannic, though the work of rescue was rendered difficult by the severe cold weather.

LATE NEWS ITEMS.

The African Lakes Company of Glasgow received a dispatch, on the 4th, confirming the report of Consul Johnson's safety and of the aggressions of the Portuguese, and adding that the Portuguese crossed the river Pae, boarded the steamers and forcibly looted the British flag ship there flying.

Two editors of Vienna, named Tomics and Dimitroff, fought a duel at Neusatz, Hungary, on the 4th, as a result of a newspaper quarrel. Dimitroff was killed.

The Pope has given his approval to the appointment of Father O'Doherty as Bishop of Derry, Ireland.

CLARK HOWELL was, on the 4th, appointed managing editor of the Atlanta Constitution to succeed the late Mr. Grady. He had been night editor and assistant managing editor of that paper for some time.

A VOTE taken by employees of Scotch railway lines on the ten-hour question shows that a majority of the men are opposed to a strike and in favor of a conference with the managers with a view to relief from excessively long periods of work.

EMPEROR WILLIAM has ordered that in future civilians attending court on state occasions shall wear knee breeches.

The split in the German National Liberal party has become serious. Many of the prominent members have flatly refused to accept the leadership of the party, or to support his return to the Reichstag.

The claims set forth by Portugal to territory in Southeast Africa include five British settlements, in the independence and development of which £170,000 have been expended by British traders and missions.

The astronomer, Perry, who was sent to Demarara at the head of a British Government expedition, died on the 4th.

MISSOURI STATE NEWS.

Adopted by the Colored Teachers.

The Colored Teachers' Association of the State, in session at Carrollton, adopted the following:

WHEREAS, The Missouri State Teachers' Association is advised, through its president, that there are certain school districts in which children of African descent are denied common school privileges; and

WHEREAS, The Constitution of the State, as well as the enlightened judgment of her best people, guarantee to each and all of her citizens equal privileges in the common schools; therefore,

Resolved, That the Missouri State Teachers' Association do hereby petition the General Assembly of Missouri, at its next session, the defects in our school law, with a view to having the law so modified as to remove the unjust discrimination.

Heavy Fire Loss.

During the past year the fire loss of St. Louis aggregated more than \$1,500,000.

The Missouri of the Future.

The (Ill.) Journal says: "The wildest dreamer can not tell what Missouri will be in fifty years from now. The census of 1900 will surely give St. Louis 1,000,000 inhabitants. And we believe that the census of 1910 will give Kansas City that number. And that is only twenty years away. That great Commonwealth is merely in its infancy. Missouri is eight and one half times as large as Massachusetts. When it is as densely populated it will contain a population of 17,000,000."

An Abductor Sentenced.

At Nevada, a few days ago, John Lowe pleaded guilty to the charge of abduction, and was sentenced to the penitentiary for five years. One Christmas eve Lowe persuaded Mary Lockhart, thirteen years of age, to leave the home of her parents, about two miles from Nevada. They first went to Fort Scott, then to St. Clair County, where he was arrested, and the girl was rescued by her parents. The girl was married in the Indian Territory. The girl denies that any marriage ceremony was performed.

The Missouri Reform School.

Some interesting correspondence has recently passed between Attorney-General John M. Wood and Circuit Court Judge Silas Woodson, of St. Joseph, which resulted in the Attorney General ruling that only boys who have been regularly convicted of a felony and misdemeanor can be admitted to the State Reform School at Booneville. Judge Woodson held this, and the ruling of the Attorney General sustained him in the position he took. The thirty-fifth General Assembly passed an act authorizing the school to make the reformatory a refuge for homeless boys, but this, of course, is invalidated by the ruling of the Attorney General, which is important, as under it the reform school becomes purely penal in its functions. Hereafter none but boys convicted of a felony can have admission to the institution.

Missouri Sinking Fund.

State Auditor Schick has transferred \$37,759.27 from the State interest fund to the State sinking fund. This amount represents the amount remaining in the State interest fund, after paying all interest on the bonded debt of the State and the interest on the certificates of indebtedness issued by the State.

At a recent meeting of the State Board of Education the State Auditor was instructed to draw his warrant for \$18,300 to pay the January interest on the school certificates.

Fire at Carrollton.

The planing-mill and box factory of Chapman & Dewey at Carrollton were destroyed by fire a few nights ago. The building was consumed with its contents, including a large amount of planing-mill machinery, lumber, etc., valued at \$12,000; insurance on building and machinery, \$3,500, with a floating insurance on lumber.

St. Louis Saloons.

During the past year 1,750 saloon licenses were granted in St. Louis.

St. Louis Mortality.

The St. Louis mortality report for the year 1899 shows that there were 8,004 deaths during the year, as compared to 2,155 of the previous year, a decrease of 1,011. The decrease is partly due to the mild summer and partly to the generally more healthy condition of the city. Of the 8,004 deaths, 344 were caused by violence, which are divided up as follows: From the effects of surgical operations, 20; suicides, 123; homicides, 44; accidents, 228. The past year was a very quiet one for the city, and the number of deaths during the year reached the high-water mark of 11,000, which are divided up as follows: Males, 6,088; females, 5,718; white, 11,200; colored, 576.

Marriages and Divorces.

During 1899 4,400 marriage licenses were filed against 4,236 for 1898 and 4,219 for 1897. There were 498 divorces suits against 350 for 1898.

Missouri Treasurers for December.

A report of transactions of the Treasury Department, ending December 31, is taken from which the following is taken: Balance December 1, \$621,665.70; receipts for month, \$236,709.15; disbursements, \$327,433.04; balance January 1, \$621,001.08. The earnings of the penitentiary for the month were \$17,309.80.

Southwest Missouri Teachers.

The Southwest Missouri Teachers' Association held its annual session at Springfield. The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: L. R. Ryd, of Lebanon, president; Miss Jessie Durham, of Springfield, secretary; J. M. Stevenson, of Carthage, treasurer.

Sued for Libel.

Rhinehart Senn, a St. Joseph produce man, filed a libel suit against O. A. Candusky, another produce man of considerable prominence, asking damages to the amount of \$20,000. Senn alleges that Candusky has called him a thief and a robber.

Land-Grabbing.

Discovery of land-grabbing was recently made by the city authorities of St. Joseph. A land company recently took possession of, platted and sold four acres of valuable land belonging to the city, situated in the northwest part of the city. The discovery was made through an attempt on the part of the land company to get possession of several lots belonging to the school board.

Rapid Baptizing.

At Carrollton two colored preachers baptized seventy-four converts in seven minutes.

STATE BOARD OF HEALTH.

Recommendations Contained in the Annual Report, Just Out.—The Records of the Board of Health, for the Session Between States.—The St. Louis Leprosy Patient—Registration, Etc.

The annual report of the State Board of Health to the Governor is just out. It is an analytical of the sanitary situation in Missouri, and contains few figures. The first point made is that the public health interests of the State are at a disadvantage because neither branch of the State Legislature has a committee on sanitary affairs. It is deemed desirable to have such committees for the reception and consideration of sanitary measures.

The neglect of physicians to supply complete records of births and deaths is seriously felt. The law directs that this be done, under penalty of \$10 for each case neglected. This neglect is especially to be regretted this year, on account of the compilation of the Federal census reports. Nevertheless the State Board protests against the present lack of provision for compensation of physicians for such returns. The board recommends also, in this connection, the enactment of a law to pay county clerks for collecting and tabulating statistics furnished by physicians under the existing law.

The board points out that every unreported death is a direct temptation to the commission of murder.

Co-operative efforts between this and other States have met with some success. The quarantine conference held last March at Montgomery, Ala., having been productive of good results.

The board commends the action of the National Association of Baggage Agents, taken last summer, to govern the transportation of corpses by rail, and regrets that it is not within the legal power of the Missouri board to adopt and enforce the requirements of railroad companies in this respect.

With the rigid enforcement of modern quarantine regulations, it is deemed almost impossible for Asiatic cholera to obtain foothold in America, and scarcely in Europe.

Small-pox is very limited in its ravages, and the practice of vaccination is recommended as an almost infallible preventive. Diphtheria and scarlet fever are now regarded as being far more destructive than small-pox, but the board believes that both diseases are under better control now than they were a year ago.

Tuberculosis is still doing destructive work. Sanitarians regard the presence of every patient suffering with pulmonary consumption as a menace to other human lives, and earnestly invite the attention of the State and National governments to this disease, which is entailing greater disability and suffering than any other known, both as to man and domestic animals.

The St. Louis leprosy patient is not regarded as a serious menace to the public health. The board declares that the perpetuation of a spread of this disease is due to a continuous bad regimen of habitation and constant association with affected individuals.

The board deprecates the alleged false economy of the State and National governments in appropriating money to destroy domestic animals affected with such diseases as rabies, glanders, farcy, and foot animals suffering with splenic fever, charbon, Texas fever, actinomycosis, swine plague, trichinosis, etc. No objection is made to the appropriation of money to investigate and prevent the spread of domestic animals, but the board insists that too little expense is incurred to prevent danger of human life from the existence of such diseases.

The board commends the medical practice laws of Missouri, along with those of several other Western States, and quotes with admiration the legal decisions upholding State boards of health in the enforcement of such laws. The decisions referred to affirmed the right of such State boards to pass on the sufficiency of medical diplomas, and to revoke licenses of registered practitioners for non-compliance of manual literature and other unprofessional acts.

The board declines to pass upon the question of the substitution of a three-term rule for the two-term rule now in force in medical colleges of the State, but is unqualified of the opinion that agitation of this subject may prove an act of good results. It believes that the State board should be relieved of all duties relative to the regulation of medical practice, and suggests, as a matter of justice to physicians, that the entire business of regulating medical practice and education in this State should be placed exclusively in the hands of the medical profession.

The total number of registrations during the year was 328, of which 341 were physicians and 48 midwives. The board believes that the complete registration of physicians should be published and paid for by the State, the State board having at its disposal no means to pay for such publication.

The foregoing report is published by authority of the State board, and is signed by the secretary, Dr. George Homan, of St. Louis.

"A man who was deeply in debt was sick unto death. 'Ah,' he sighed, 'if I could only live until I paid off my debts.' 'Humph!' sneered the doctor. 'You want to live forever, do you?'"—Texas Siftings.

"A man who lives near Leontina, O., was badly scared one night by something he thought was a ghost at his bedroom window. Investigation showed, however, that the intruder was only his old white horse."

A Fruitful Mission.—"I have missed you from the Sewing Society, Mrs. Proudfoot, for two weeks. You do not know how much good we are doing to the poor Zenanas."—"Pardon me, Mrs. Sewellhead, who are the Zenanas?"—"Oh, they're some people in Madagascar, or the South Seas, or somewhere, but what does it matter? Mrs. Sackville Crest says they're the correct thing to wear."—"Well, the fact of the matter is, Mrs. Sewellhead, I've been waiting for my new bonnet, and the Zenanas must just get along the best they can till I'm ready."—Drake's Magazine.

"A very useful invention, tending to lessen the possibility of accidents in factories, is now being extensively adopted in England. The breaking of a glass, which is adjusted against the wall of every room in the mill, will at once stop the engine, an electric current being established between the room and the throttle valve of the engine, shutting off steam in an instant. By this means the engine was stopped at one of the mills recently in a few seconds, and a young girl, whose clothes had become entangled in an upright shaft, was freed unharmed."

FISCAL MATTERS.

Treasury Statement for the Month of December, 1899.—Decrease in the Public Debt \$3,128,005.—Receipts and Expenditures for the Same Time, Pension Payments, Decrease in Interest, Etc.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 2.—The monthly public-debt statement issued from the Treasury Department today shows a decrease of the debt amounting to \$3,128,005 during the past month of December, and for the first half of the current fiscal year, \$23,693,710. The total debt, less cash in the Treasury on January 1, 1899, was \$1,134,062,258, and on January 1, 1899, it was \$1,052,932,911, showing a reduction during the year just closed of \$81,099,347. During the previous calendar year the debt was reduced \$91,533,144. The principal of the outstanding interest-bearing debt has been reduced \$121,144,199 during the past year, and to-day aggregates \$239,897,402.

The net cash or surplus in the Treasury today is \$29,955,110, against \$40,249,187 a month ago, and is thirty millions less than on January 1, 1899. National Bank deposits today hold \$40,939,852 of Government funds—a decrease of about six millions and a half during the past month, and of eleven millions and a half since January 1, 1899, when these banks held \$52,300,167.

The gold fund balance in the Treasury has increased about three millions and a half during the past month, and now amounts to \$190,835,052; and the silver fund balance, exclusive of six millions due to the balance of New York, 97, or three and a half millions less than a month ago. The gold fund balance has decreased \$13,000,000 during the past twelve months.

Government receipts during December past aggregated \$29,595,504, against \$30,150,262 in December, 1898. Customs receipts during the past month were \$15,925,107, or about one million less than in December, 1898; and internal revenue receipts during the past month were \$11,003,848, or about \$600,000 more than in December a year ago. Receipts from all sources from July 1 to December 31, the first half of the current fiscal year, aggregated \$192,898,407, or about two and a quarter millions less than for the corresponding six months of 1898. On the other hand, the expenditures during the first half of the current fiscal year aggregated \$175,615,277, or about one million more than the expenditures during the corresponding months of 1898. Of this increase in expenditures compared with the first half of the preceding fiscal year, four millions is due to an increase in War Department expenses; about one million increase in the amount of proceeds from bonds purchased, and ten and half millions increase in pension payments.

Pension payments for the past six months aggregated \$61,280,063; but of this amount \$8,000,000 is justly chargeable to the last fiscal year, that amount nearly having been paid out last July to settle pension claims. Thus, before the beginning of the current fiscal year, the interest charge on the public debt during the past six months was \$18,662,020, or nearly two and three-quarter millions less than for the corresponding months of 1898.

SLOWLY DYING.

Mrs. Hannah Southworth, Who Killed Stephen Pettus in New York, Slowly Dying in the Tombs From Bronchitis and Medical Neglect—A Writ of Habeas Corpus.

NEW YORK, Jan. 8.—Mrs. Hannah Southworth, who is a prisoner in the Tombs awaiting trial for the fatal shooting of Stephen Pettus, has steadily advanced in health since her incarceration, and is now seriously ill with acute bronchitis. The prisoners on authorities do not believe she will live to undergo the trial.

Mrs. Hannah Southworth, dergo trial. Her mother remains with her constantly. Mrs. Southworth's mother, Mrs. Martin, obtained from the Supreme Court yesterday a writ of habeas corpus, requiring the warden of the Tombs to produce Mrs. Southworth in court to-day and show cause why she should not be removed to hospital. Mrs. Martin alleges that the prisoner can not receive proper medical attention in the Tombs. She declares that the prison physician is neglectful, so much so that the warden has been obliged to call the attention of the Commissioner of Charities and Correction to the matter. Mrs. Martin further says that her daughter has but a few weeks to live, and that